

CLAIMS:

1. A nonaqueous gel composition for tooth whitening comprising (A) a tooth whitening ingredient having a relative permittivity of 17.0 to 43.0 (at 25°C) and a vapor pressure of 0 to 7000 kPa (at 25°C), (B) a substance which dissolves in said tooth whitening ingredient and is precipitated by an aqueous solution of calcium chloride, and (C) a gelling agent, said composition being substantially free of water and peroxide.
2. The nonaqueous gel composition for tooth whitening as defined in claim 1, wherein the tooth whitening ingredient (A) is at least one selected from the group consisting of isopropanol, butanol, ethylene glycol, polyethylene glycol (with an average molecular weight of 190 to 630), diethylene glycol, propylene glycol, dipropylene glycol, butylene glycol, and glycerin.
3. The nonaqueous gel composition for tooth whitening as defined in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the substance (B) which dissolves in the tooth whitening ingredient and is precipitated by an aqueous solution of calcium chloride is at least one selected from the group consisting of C<sub>14-22</sub> higher fatty acids and/or acrylic acid copolymers.
4. The nonaqueous gel composition for tooth whitening as defined in claim 3, wherein the substance (B) is at least one selected from the group consisting of myristic acid, 7-hydroxymyristic acid, jaluric acid, 9,10,16-trihydroxypalmitic acid, palmitoleic acid, 12-hydroxystearic acid, isostearic acid, oleic acid, linoleic acid, linolenic acid, erucic acid, shellac, t-Bu acrylate/ethyl acrylate/methacrylic acid copolymer, methyl acrylate/methacrylic acid copolymer, methyl methacrylate/methacrylic acid copolymer, acrylic acid/acrylamide/ethyl acrylate copolymer,

octylacrylamide/acrylate ester copolymer,  
methyl methacrylate/ethyl acrylate/methacrylic acid  
trimethylammonium ethyl chloride copolymer.

- 5     5.     The nonaqueous gel composition for tooth whitening as  
defined in any one of claims 1 to 4, wherein the gelling  
agent (C) is at least one selected from the group consisting  
of polyacrylic acid, carboxyvinyl polymer, hydroxypropyl  
cellulose, carboxymethyl cellulose, and salts thereof.
- 10     6.     The nonaqueous gel composition for tooth whitening as  
defined in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the tooth  
whitening ingredient (A) accounts for 50.0 to 99.5 % by  
weight of the total amount of the composition, the substance  
15     (B) accounts for 0.1 to 10 % by weight of the total amount of  
the composition, and the gelling agent (C) accounts for 0.1  
to 15 % by weight of the total amount of the composition.
- 20     7.     The nonaqueous gel composition for tooth whitening as  
defined in any one of claims 1 to 6, which further comprises  
a surfactant that accounts for 0.05 to 5 % by weight of the  
total amount of the composition.
- 25     8.     A tooth whitening set comprising the nonaqueous gel  
composition for tooth whitening defined in any one of claims  
1 to 7 and a tool for its application which is detachably  
fitted to teeth while holding it.
- 30     9.     The tooth whitening set as defined in claim 8, wherein  
the tool for application is any of tape, sheet, film, mouth  
tray, mouth piece, sponge, impression material, pack material,  
and tooth cover conforming to the dentition, which are all  
made of water-insoluble material.